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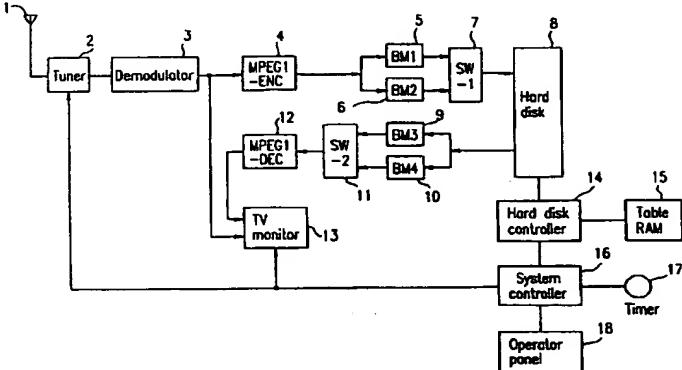
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(54) Video signal recording and reproducing apparatus

(57) The video signal recording and reproducing apparatus of the invention includes: a receiving section (1-3) for receiving a television signal; an image compression section (4-7) for compressing an amount of information per unit time of the received continuous video signal; a writing section (8) for intermittently writing a compressed video signal, obtained as an output of the image compression section, onto a hard disk apparatus via a magnetic head; a reading section (8) for intermittently reading out the written compressed video signal from the hard disk apparatus via the magnetic head; a decoding section (9-12) for restoring the read compressed video signal into an original video signal; a display section (13) for displaying the restored video signal; and a control section (14-18) for controlling the writing section and the reading section such that writing the video signal onto the hard disk apparatus and reading an arbitrary video signal, which was previously written onto the hard disk apparatus, from the hard disk apparatus are performed apparently simultaneously and continuously.

FIG. 1



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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT									
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)						
X	US 5 438 423 A (LYNCH ET AL.) 1 August 1995 * the whole document *	1,2,4-6, 9,12,13	H04N5/775						
Y A	---	3,22 7,15-21							
Y A	US 5 329 320 A (YIFRACH) 12 July 1994 * the whole document *	3							
Y A	---	7,15-17, 20							
Y	US 5 237 426 A (DAITO) 17 August 1993 * column 2, line 48 - column 4, line 14; figure 2 *	22							
A	US 5 241 428 A (GOLDWASSER ET AL.) 31 August 1993 * column 6, line 22 - column 7, line 68; figures 3,4 *	1,7, 15-17, 20,21							

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)						
			H04N						
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Place of search</td> <td>Date of completion of the search</td> <td>Examiner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THE HAGUE</td> <td>28 April 1998</td> <td>Verleye, J</td> </tr> </table>				Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	THE HAGUE	28 April 1998	Verleye, J
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THE HAGUE	28 April 1998	Verleye, J							
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document							
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document									

**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims

None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-6, 8-14

Video signal recording and reproducing apparatus using a hard disk, in which recording and replay is controlled intermittently such that writing the video signal onto the disk and reading an arbitrary video signal, which was previously written onto the disk, from the disk are performed apparently simultaneously and continuously. Starting of recording and reproducing is controlled manually. Finishing of recording is controlled by timer means.

2. Claim : 7

Video signal recording and reproducing apparatus using a hard disk, in which recording and replay is controlled intermittently such that writing the video signal onto the disk and reading an arbitrary video signal, which was previously written onto the disk, from the disk are performed apparently simultaneously and continuously. Starting of reproducing is controlled manually. Starting and finishing of recording is controlled by timer means.

3. Claim : 15

Video signal recording and reproducing apparatus using a hard disk, in which recording and replay is controlled intermittently. Reading out predetermined recorded signals is accomplished at a predetermined time.

4. Claim : 16

Video signal recording and reproducing apparatus using a hard disk, in which recording and replay is controlled intermittently. Reading out predetermined recorded signals is accomplished at a point of time when a sound recognition means recognizes a predetermined sound.

5. Claims: 17-19

Video signal recording and reproducing apparatus using a hard disk, in which recording and replay is controlled intermittently. A video signal is retrieved, at an arbitrary point, for an arbitrary period, from video signals which are being received or which have been previously recorded, provided



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

with information in order to be protected against overwriting, and stored on the hard disk.

6. Claim : 20

Video signal recording and reproducing apparatus using a hard disk, in which recording and replay is controlled intermittently.

While compressing a video signal which is being received and writing it onto the hard disk, a video signal, which has been previously recorded, is read out, decoded, reduced, compressed again and written again onto the hard disk.

7. Claim : 21

Apparatus for recording and reproducing television signals, simultaneously received from a plurality of channels, using a hard disk, in which recording and replay is controlled intermittently.

While compressing the received video signals and writing them onto the hard disk, a video signal from a particular channel, which has been previously recorded, is read out.

8. Claim : 22

Apparatus for recording and reproducing television signals, simultaneously received from a plurality of channels, using a hard disk, in which recording and replay is controlled intermittently.

The received television signals are synthesized into one screen, compressed and written onto the hard disk.

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